

Recycling and Refuse Management Committee

Landfill Alternatives Sub-Committee Minutes

January 5, 2012

Attendees: Guilford Mooring, Sue Morrello, John Root, Meg Vickery and Susan Waite.

Minutes of December 5th, approved.

Meg reported on the carbon footprint of shipping trash to Seneca Falls, NY. Distance between Seneca Falls and Easthampton is 265 miles. Stats on the MPG for a tractor trailer or its CO2 production were hard to find so stats for a Hummer were used instead. Guilford thought this was a reasonable comparison. A Hummer produces .14 tons of CO2 on a 265 mile trip. Round trip would then be .28 tons.

Meg also emailed a copy of a NYTimes article on the incineration vs landfill debate to all committee members. The article can be found at this link:

<http://roomfordebate.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/04/13/should-the-u-s-burn-or-bury-its-trash/>

Sue spoke with a representative from Waste Management and reported that the Granby landfill would be closing in 2012 but the Chicopee landfill will be operating for another 5 or 6 years.

Solid Waste Survey

Susan prepared a draft survey which the committee reviewed and edited. The full RRMC will also review the survey as well, at the 4:30pm meeting later in the day.

Recommendation Letter

The Transfer Station trash disposal recommendation letter to Guilford and John Musante regarding will be from the full Recycling and Refuse Management Committee. Guilford thought there was no immediate rush for this letter. We want to see the results of the resident solid waste survey first.

Action items:

Meg will further research Seneca Falls option.

John will research Covanta footprint.

Susan will revise the survey based on subcommittee input.

Susan will send out the final PVPC regional waste report to subcommittee members.

Susan will look into ballpark costs for Duseau and WM to handle transfer station trash.